

## Message Text

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ACTION TRSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY DACCA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 585

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EFIN BG  
SUBJECT: IMF/WORLD BANK ANNUAL MEETING, SEPTEMBER 25-28

REF: STATE 203590

1. THE BDG HAS NOT YET PREPARED AGENDAS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE BANK/FUND MEETINGS. PLANNING MINISTRY OFFICIALS AND WORLD BANK RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE STORRAR ADVISE THAT BDG DELEGATION MAY REQUEST WORLD BANK FINANCING FOR THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS/SECTORS IN TALKS WITH BANK OFFICIALS.

A. NORTHERN BENGAL AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, 1978-83. (NOTE: THIS SCHEME ENVISAGES DOUBLING OF FOOD PRODUCTION IN RAJSHAHI DIVISION THROUGH INTENSIFIED USE OF FERTILIZER, IRRIGATION AND HIGH-YIELD VARIETIES. THE COST ESTIMATE IS \$310 MILLION OVER FIVE YEARS OF WHICH \$148 MILLION WOULD BE FOREIGN EXCHANGE.)

B. GAS EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

C. LOAN FOR THE BANGLADESH SHILPA RIN SANGSTHA INDUSTRIAL BANK. (NOTE: THE WORLD BANK HAS ALREADY MADE A LOAD TO ANOTHER SIMILAR STATE INDUSTRIAL BANK, THE SHILPA BANK, AND IS NOT INTERESTED IN A CREDIT TO THE BSRS.

D. RURAL ROADS.

E. FERTILIZER.

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2. BDG DELEGATION MAY ALSO DISCUSS PROCEDURAL HURDLES IN IMPLEMENTING BANK LOANS.

3. WORLD BANK REPRESENTATIVE STORRAR TOLD EMBOFF HE THOUGHT THE BANK WOULD RAISE THE FOLLOWING PROBLEMS WITH BANGLADESHIS IN PRIVATE SESSIONS.

A. THE NEED FOR GREATER GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO MOBILIZE LOCAL REVENUE, ESPECIALLY BY REDUCING LARGE SUBSIDIES OF FOOD AND FERTILIZER AND OTHER COMMODITIES AND SERVICES.

B. THE POSSIBILITY OF A SHORTFALL IN FERTILIZER IMPORTS IN FY 1979 AND THE NEED FOR LOCATING ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR IMPORTS. (NOTE: THE BANK IS UNABLE FOR PROCEDURAL REASONS TO FINANCE FERTILIZER IMPORTS THIS YEAR; IT OFFERED TO DO SO LAST SPRING BUT THE BDG FIRST TURNED DOWN THE OFFER AND LATER REVERSED ITSELF AFTER IT WAS TOO LATE FOR THE BANK TO PROGRAM FERTILIZER.)

C. THE NEED FOR INCREASED PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT.

D. THE POOR PERFORMANCE OF BDG IN DELIVERING FERTILIZER AND OTHER INPUTS PROMISED TO INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS IN THANAS WHERE WORLD BANK HAS PROVIDED FINANCING. STORRAR SAID BANK'S FINANCING OF THESE PROJECTS HAS VIRTUALLY STOPPED, PENDING A SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM.

4. BDG DELEGATION TO BANK/FUND MEETINGS WILL BE DR. M.N. HUDA, MINISTER FOR PLANNING; A..A. MUHITH, SECRETARY, EXTERNAL RESOURCES DIVISION, MINISTRY OF PLANNING; S. KHAIR, SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF FINANCE; AND NURUL ISLAM, GOVERNOR, BANGLADESH BANK.

5. WE WILL UPDATE THIS MESSAGE IF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BECOMES AVAILABLE.  
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## Message Attributes

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